

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 118039

73

ORIGIN IO-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO 94TH EXBD, ITEM 4.2.2

1. USDEL MAY APPROVE DRAFT RESOLUTION CONTAINED IN 94EX12 AUTHORIZING THE INCLUSION OF ITEM ON "DESIRABILITY OF ADOPTING AN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION" ON AGENDA OF 18T GC.

2. USDEL SHOULD NOTE THAT OUR SUPPORT IS CONTINGENT UPON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT THAT WOULD TAKE THE FORM OF A RECOMMENDATION (RE: PARA 95 OF 94EX12, ANNEX 1), AS WE VIEW NORMATIVE ACTION BY UNESCO INAPPROPRIATE AND UNNECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE DEMONSTRATED INTEREST BY MEMBER STATES IN WANTING TO DEVELOP THIS AREA OF EDUCATION AND THE NEED, PARTICULARLY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN FORMULAS FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

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PAGE 02 STATE 118039

3. IN COMMENTING UPON 94EX12, ANNEX 1, USDEL MAY DRAW

FROM THE FOLLOWING REMARKS:

(A) WE BELIEVE UNESCO'S PRELIMINARY STUDY MAY PROVIDE A USEFUL BASE FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION LEADING TO THE PREPARATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT. GENERALLY SPEAKING, IT TOUCHES UPON MOST ASPECTS OF ADULT EDUCATION, HIGHLIGHTING CONCEPTS, PROBLEMS AND NEW APPROACHES.

(B) WE WOULD GIVE GREATER ATTENTION TO THE 1972 TOKYO CONFERENCE ON ADULT EDUCATION. IN ADDITION TO RECOMMENDING THAT AN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT BE DRAFTED, IT DISTILLED AND OUTLINED MOST OF THE POINTS WHICH NEED TO BE INCLUDED IN A RECOMMENDATION (PARTICULARLY PARAS 21-24 OF THE SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE FINAL REPORT). IT IS THE NATURAL POINT OF DEPARTURE AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ITS CONCLUSIONS SHOULD NOT BE LOST.

(C) SPECIFICALLY:

(1) WE NOTE THE DIFFICULTY IN ARRIVING AT A MEANINGFUL, YET NON-RESTRICTIVE, DEFINITION OF ADULT EDUCATION AND WOULD NOTE THAT LEGGE'S DEFINITION, PARA 11(A), UNACCEPTABLE AS WE CONSIDER THAT EDUCATION MUST CONTAIN ELEMENTS OF SYSTEMATICALLY ORGANIZED STUDY AND DELIBERATE INTENT.

(2) WE BELIEVE THERE IS A NEED FOR MORE ELUCIDATION IN PARAS 88-92 ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

(3) WE BELIEVE MORE ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RECOMMENDATION TO LDC'S WHICH MUST HAVE THE MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE AND FLEXIBILITY TO EXPERIMENT WITH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS TO FIND WHAT IS MOST SUITABLE FOR THEIR OWN SOCIETY. IN THIS RESPECT WE ENDORSE THE POINT MADE IN PARA 91 THAT FOREIGN AID SHOULD ENCOURAGE ENDOGENOUS (WE PREFER "INDIGENOUS") DEVELOPMENT  
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PAGE 03 STATE 118039

IN THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED.

(4) WE SUGGEST LESS DOGMATIC ASSERTION IN PARA 43 REGARDING THE INDIVIDUAL IN TECHNICALLY ADVANCED SOCIETIES AND THE EXPANSION OF PARA 74 TO INCLUDE OTHER EXAMPLES, SUCH AS, "PRISONS, BUREAUCRACIES AND INSTITUTIONS."

(5) WE FIND COMMENDABLE: THE BROAD APPROACH TO VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TAKEN IN PARA 56, THE EMPHASIS GIVEN TO THE CITIZEN'S ROLE IN PARA 57 AND THE STRESS GIVEN TO RELATING SCHOOL TO LIFE AND THE COMMUNITY IN PARA 45.

(6) RE: PARAS 70-72, WE BELIEVE THERE IS LITTLE EXPERIENCE TO SUGGEST THAT "COORDINATING BODIES AT VARIOUS LEVELS..." WILL BE AN EFFECTIVE MECHANISM. WE WOULD DISCOURAGE SETTING UP NEW ESTABLISHMENTS, ESPECIALLY BEFORE UTILIZING THOSE WHICH ALREADY EXIST. RESEARCH AND EVALUATION OF ADULT EDUCATION, FOR EXAMPLE, IS A LOGICAL FUNCTION FOR MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION. THE USE OF EXISTING STRUCTURES AND SERVICES SUCH AS THOSE MENTIONED IN PARA 73 IS A GOOD, SOUND APPROACH. KISSINGER

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